

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 EA-06 AID-05 CEA-01

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SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EC, XF, EI

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REAFFIRMATION OF NOVEMBER 1973 EC
- DECLARATION ON ME

REF: DUBLIN 1162

1. REFTEL REPORTS THAT JUNE 27 MEETING OF EC MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS GROUP CONSIDERED QUESTION OF REISSUING NOVEMBER 1973 EC DECLARATION ON MIDDLE EAST, WITH "SOME MINOR MODIFICATIONS TO BRING IT UP TO DATE." IT APPEARS PROPOSAL MAY BE DISCUSSED AT JULY 7 MEETING OF EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS IN ROME.

2. AMEMBASSY ROME REQUESTED TO SEEK MEETING WITH GOI POLITICAL DIRECTOR PRIOR TO JULY 7 TO SEEK CLARIFICATION OF THINKING BEHIND PROPOSAL AND TO CONVEY POINTS IN FOLLOWING PARAS FOR TRANSMITTAL OTHER EC MEMBERS IN ITALIAN ROLE AS EC PRESIDENCY:

3. WE RECALL THAT 1973 DECLARATION DEALT WITH MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF ARAB-ISRAEL DISPUTE AND WAS WIDELY SEEN AT TIME OF ITS ISSUANCE AS INTERPRETING AND GOING BEYOND SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. REAFFIRMATION OF DECLARATION, OR ANY OTHER SUCH DECLARATION, WOULD BE MOST

UNHELPFUL AT THIS TIME WHEN WE ARE AT DELICATE STAGE OF TRYING TO GET NEGOTIATING PROCESS STARTED AGAIN.

4. DESIRE OF EC MIDDLE EAST EXPERTS GROUP NOT TO INTERFERE WITH SETTLEMENT EFFORTS, (PARA 4 REFTEL) IS APPRECIATED AND WE WOULD HOPE THIS DESIRE WILL BE REFLECTED IN DECISION NOT TO PURSUE REAFFIRMATION OPTION.

5. SHOULD POLITICAL DIRECTORS NEVERTHELESS FEEL DESPITE OUR KNOWN VIEWS THAT THE COMMUNITY SHOULD PURSUE
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REAFFIRMATION OPTION, WE WOULD SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT FURTHER PRIOR TO JULY 15 MEETING OF EC FOREIGN MINISTERS. WE UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE DESIRE IN EC, WHICH WE FULLY SHARE, TO SEE PROGRESS ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM, AND WE WELCOME SUPPORT OF EC MEMBERS IN ENCOURAGING PROGRESS IN THEIR CONTRACTS WITH ALL THE PARTIES. IT IS OUR HONEST JUDGMENT, HOWEVER, THAT INITIATIVE OF KIND BEING DISCUSSED, WHICH WOULD BE SEEN AS UNBALANCED AND AS PREJUDGING

SUBSTANCE OF SETTLEMENT, WOULD HAVE CONTRARY EFFECT.YY

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